

JUL 20 1966

STATINTL

Sen. Dodd Threatens Legal Challenge If Probe Includes Campaign Questions

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate Ethics Committee today faced a legal challenge from Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.) if its investigation of misconduct charges against him moves into the area of campaign finance and \$100-a-plate testimonial dinners.

John F. Sonett, chief counsel for the 59-year-old Dodd, said that the Senate resolution that created the committee precluded any investigation of campaign finances.

But as the committee finished the first phase of its

investigation — the relationship between Dodd and public relations magnate Julius Klein — chairman John C. Stennis, D-Miss., made it clear the campaign issue was already under scrutiny.

Stennis said that "steady and consistent progress is being made. It consists primarily of ferretting out records, financial records." He gave no indication when hearings would resume, however.

Other senators confirmed that the committee investiga-

tion of Dodd's campaign finances activities is well under way. One of the charges is that Dodd pocketed some \$200,000 in campaign contributions for his personal use.

The first phase of the

investigation was capped Tuesday by the day-long testimony of Klein, a 64-year-old registered foreign agent for West German interests. He added little to what was already on the record.